

Mrs Beryl Carmichael

REDACTED

22 March 2002

Dear Beryl

This is to confirm our telephone conversation of 18 March 2002 and my subsequent meeting on 19 March 2002 in Perth with assessors appointed to investigate [BYF]s complaint.

As I indicated to you and the assessors I had intended to confirm by letter my conversation with [BYF] on 16 March 2002. [BYF] telephoned me to apologise for a joke he had made during our meeting on 14 March in which he had made reference to the possibility of suing me. He said that he regretted making that comment, that he had no intention of suing me or even of making a complaint against me. He indicated that he had been surprised that his letter to the Bishop of Tasmania had been read in that way and that he had corrected that understanding with you.

Notwithstanding all this I indicated to [BYF] that if he wished to make a complaint against me he should feel entirely free to do so. I said that the last thing I wanted ever to be said was that I had tried to dissuade him from making a complaint.

As I indicated to you I had intended to confirm this conversation by writing to [BYF]. At your request and on advice from Audrey Mills conveyed by you I will now not write to [BYF] in this vein.

I also confirm that you have requested me to have no further contact with [BYF] until this matter is resolved. Would you please confirm with [BYF] that this is your request to me. I am concerned that having told him I would support him in any action he wished to take he may now wonder about the lack of any contact from me. I will abide by your request not to have any contact with [BYF] myself.

I also confirm that you have requested that I have no contact with Bishop Harrower, with Lou Daniels or with anyone else in Tasmania about this matter until after the investigation is concluded. I will abide by that request.

I should inform you that this morning I returned a telephone message from Sue Clayton left during my absence at the bishops' conference. Sue was questioning press reports that she had told me of her report to the then Bishop of Tasmania during my time as a theological student 1985-88. Sue's recollection is that she informed me some time later, she believes in 1992. Our recollections differ on that point. We did not speak about the substance of her knowledge of these matters. I encouraged her several times to report what she knew to Tasmania so the matters could be investigated.

Thank you for your message left yesterday regarding reimbursing the taxi fares incurred in meeting with the assessors. I enclose docket for \$52-83 and \$52-16 making a total of \$104-99. Please arrange for a cheque to be made payable to me personally and forwarded to REDACTED

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I reiterate my wish to assist you in any way I can with these difficult matters.

With best wishes,

+PB

The Most Rev'd Dr Phillip Aspinall
Archbishop of Brisbane